

Legal Notice

Partial Bond Release and Comprehensive Five-Year Bond Review for Schellinger Construction Co., Inc. (Hard Rock Mining Operating Permit No. 00045)

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has received a request for bond release for Schellinger Construction Co., Inc. (Schellinger). Schellinger is authorized to operate a construction aggregates quarry under Operating Permit No. 00045. The site is located on private land in Section 33 of Township 30N Range 16W, approximately 5 miles east of the town of West Glacier in Flathead County.

DEQ currently holds a reclamation bond in the amount of \$316,187. DEQ is proposing to release \$77,388 and retain \$238,799. The bond decrease is due to a revision of the approved reclamation plan. The reclamation plan was revised to require 10 cubic yards of topsoil/compost be blended into crusher fines as an organic amendment and spread as reclamation growth media. The reclamation plan originally required 65 cubic yards of topsoil/compost be used as an amendment for reclamation. DEQ determined Schellinger's bond decreased after factoring in changes to fuel prices, equipment rates, updated indirect costs such as mobilization, contingency, and administration, and the reduction in the volume and transportation cost of organic amendment.

Pursuant to 82-4-338(5), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), DEQ may not release or decrease a reclamation bond until the public has been provided an opportunity for a hearing and a hearing has been held if requested. Requests for a hearing or comments on the proposed bond release and proposed bond determination must be submitted to DEQ by August 8, 2023, and sent to Eric Dahlgren, Department of Environmental Quality, Hard Rock Mining Section, Mining Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, or to DEQHardRock@mt.gov.

Information about the proposed changes to the bond or copies of the bond calculation may be obtained by contacting Eric Dahlgren at (406) 444-5245 or edahlgren@mt.gov.